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City Pools To Open

75th Year For Free Swimming Instructions

For Immediate Release Contact Jeff Buell- 270-4554

(June 24, 2004- TROY)- Mayor Harry Tutunjian announced Thursday that the two City pools are scheduled to open for the season on Wednesday, June 30th at 1:00 p.m. The swim facilities include the Knickerbacker Pool located at 104th Street and 7th Avenue in Lansingburgh, and the South End Pool located off of Fourth and Tyler Streets in South Troy.

Afternoon public swim sessions will be held daily from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at a cost of \$1.00 for children (under 18) and \$2.00 for adults. Season passes for the facilities are available for children at a cost of \$5.00 for half the season and \$10 for a full season.

This season will mark the seventy-fifth consecutive season that free swim instructions will be offered at City pools. According to Tutunjian, the City's swim instructional program dates back to 1930 in Prospect Park. The program reached a peak back in the late 1950's and early 1960's when attendance reached over 400 participants. Over the last twenty-five years or so with the large growth of backyard pools, attendance has leveled off between 100 to 150 participants per season.

"We all know how hot it can get in upstate New York during the summer months," Tutunjian said. "It is vital for us to offer our youth the opportunity to swim in the City pools. It keeps them busy and out of trouble, not to mention cool, on those inevitable 90 degree days."

This season the Red Cross will offer certified classes (free of charge to Troy residents), sponsored by the Patroon Club of Troy on the following dates:

Monday thru Friday, July 12th to July 23rd at Knickerbacker Pool:

10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Beginners- Level I, II, and III 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. Advanced Level IV to VII

At South End Pool lessons will begin on Monday, July 26th to Friday, August 6th:

10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Beginners Level I, II, III 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. Advanced Level IV to VII

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There are also a number of evening swims programs available, including: Adult "Swim for Fitness", parent/tot swim, and family nights, which are offered on weeknights from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at both pools. To get registration times or other additional information on any of the above programs, you may contact the pools directly after June 30th at the following numbers: Knickerbacker Pool- 237-0097, South End Pool- 270-1125.

"There really is something for everyone here, and I hope that all Troy residents take advantage of these programs," Tutunjian said. "We have a fully staffed lifeguard unit, and dedicated City employees to ensure the cleanliness and safety of all the facilities. Come out and enjoy the beautiful weather."